repairs of all National Highways in Madhya Pradesh during 1999-2000 was Rs. 97.26 crore and Rs. 65.73 crore respectively.

(d) and (e) The proposals are in preliminary stage and as such no details can be given.

Widening of National Highways in Assam

3217. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance granted by the Central Government during the last three years to Assam for road widening works on National Highways;

(b) the present status of various National Highways in the State; and

(c) the necessary steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) National Highways are the responsibility of the Government of India therefore, there is no question of financial assistance for development of National Highways.

(b) Total length of National Highways in Assam is 2706 km out of which 742 km is single lane, 95 km intermediate lane and 1869 km is double lane.

(c) Development of National Highways is continuous process and projects are taken up depending upon availability of funds, traffic intensity and *inter-se* priority.

Bridges on National Highways in Tamil Nadu

3218. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bridges constructed on National Highways in Tamil Nadu during the last two years;

(b) the number of bridges which are going to be constructed during the current year; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) One minor bridge at Km. 688 of NH-46 and 3 minor bridges at Km. 465, 638 and 843 of NH-49 Extension were constructed during the last two years (1998-2000).

(b) and (c) Reconstruction of Seven minor bridges, as details below, is targetted to be completed during the current financial year;

3 minor bridges on NH-49 Ext. at Km. 252, 488 and 594; and

4 minor bridges at Km. 1528 of NH-45B, Km. 1342 of NH-66, Km. 1168 of NH-67 and km 1054 of NH-68.

Upgradation of State Highways

†3219. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to upgrade the roads in various regions of the country by developing the same to the level of national Highways;

(b) if so, what are the State-wise details of those roads alongwith the length of each of those roads; and

(c) by when the work relating to upgradation of roads in each State upto the level of national Highways is targeted to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. All roads in the country which have been declared as National Highways are to be developed to National Highway standard.

(b) A statement giving details is enclosed. (*See* below)

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.